

Patent

Serial No. 09/932,103

Amendment in Reply to the Office Action of October 30, 2006

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A method for managing television programs and their synchronized web simulcasts, the method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) detecting incoming television signals from a plurality of sources for tag information identifying the source of said synchronized web simulcasts;
 - (b) establishing a communication channel to the source of said synchronized web simulcasts;
 - (c) retrieving a number of enhanced features from the source of said synchronized web simulcasts;
 - (d) storing said retrieved enhanced features in a storage medium for subsequent retrieval; and,
 - (e) formatting said retrieved, enhanced features according to predetermined criteria to generate a content list.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of presenting said content list to a viewer.

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3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said content listing includes information selected from the group consisting of enhanced feature description, source, length, starting time, ending time, and a combination thereof.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of selecting one of said enhanced features tied to a TV program by a viewer.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of displaying one of said enhanced features selected by said user with the corresponding TV program that is synchronized to said selected enhanced feature.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said predetermined criteria defines the number of enhanced features associated with the source of said synchronized web simulcasts.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said plurality of sources includes at least one of a television network, Internet

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network, wireless network, and wired network, or a combination thereof.

8. (Original) A method for managing television programs and their synchronized web simulcasts, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving a plurality of television programs from a plurality of television broadcasters;

(b) detecting the plurality of said television programs for tag information identifying the respective source of said synchronized web simulcasts;

(c) determining whether said detected tag information indicates that said synchronized web simulcasts are being broadcast currently; and,

(c)(1)(i) if yes, establishing a channel connection to the source of said synchronized web simulcasts indicated by said tag information;

(c)(1)(ii) downloading and displaying a number of enhanced features from the source of said synchronized web simulcasts to a viewer;

(c)(2)(i) if no, establishing a channel connection to the source of said synchronized web simulcasts indicated by said tag information; and,

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(c)(2)(ii) downloading a number of enhanced features from the source of said synchronized web simulcasts for storage in a memory medium for subsequent retrieval; and,

(d) formatting said retrieved enhanced features according to predetermined criteria to generate a content list selectable by said viewer.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of presenting said content list to said viewer.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of selecting one of said enhanced features tied to a TV program by said viewer.

11. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of displaying one of said enhanced features selected by said user with the corresponding TV program that is synchronized to said selected enhanced feature.

12. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said step of displaying is performed interactively in response to said viewer's

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input.

13. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said content listing includes information selected from the group consisting of an enhanced feature description, source, length, starting time, ending time, and a combination thereof.

14. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said predetermined criteria defines the >number of enhancement features associated with the source of said synchronized web simulcasts.

15. (Original) A system for managing television programs and their related web simulcasts, comprising: a detection means, coupled to receive incoming television programs viewed by a user, for detecting tag information indicating the source of synchronized web simulcasts; a communication means for establishing a communication channel to the source of said synchronized web simulcasts; a storage means for storing data representative of a plurality of enhanced features corresponding to said incoming television programs; a controlling means, coupled to said storage means, said detection means, and said communication means, for retrieving the

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plurality of said enhanced features from the source of said synchronized web simulcasts and for formatting said retrieved enhanced features according to predetermined criteria to generate a content list selectable by said user; and, a display means, coupled to said controlling means, for displaying said incoming television programs and one of said retrieved enhanced features selected interactively by said user.

16. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the data representative of the plurality of said enhanced features is interactively created in advance.

17. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein said predetermined criteria defines the number of enhancement features associated with the source of said synchronized web simulcasts.

18. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the data representative of the plurality of said enhanced features is interactively created in advance.

19. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein said content listing

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includes information selected from the group consisting of an enhanced feature description, source, length, starting time, ending time, and a combination thereof.

20. (Original) A system for managing television programs and their related web simulcasts, comprising: a memory for storing a computer-readable code; and, a processor operatively coupled to said memory, said processor configured to: detect incoming television signals from a plurality of sources for tag information identifying the source of synchronized web simulcasts; establish a communication channel to the source of said synchronized web simulcasts; retrieve a number of enhanced features from the source of said synchronized web simulcasts; store said retrieved enhanced features in a storage medium for subsequent retrieval; format said retrieved enhanced features according to predetermined criteria to generate a content list; and, display one of said enhanced features selected by said user with the corresponding TV program that is synchronized to said selected enhanced feature.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein said content listing includes information selected from the group consisting of an

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enhanced feature description, source, length, starting time, ending time, and a combination thereof.

22. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein said predetermined criteria defines the number of enhancement features associated with the source of said synchronized web simulcasts.

23. (Previously presented) A method for presenting simulcast information, the method comprising executing operations on at least one user local data processing device, the operations comprising:

- o receiving audio-visual information;
- o detecting at least one tag in the video information relating to at least one website simulcasting supplemental information relating to the audio-visual information;
- o retrieving the supplemental information prior to a need for display of such information;
- o marking the supplemental information for synchronized display with the audio-visual information;
- o storing the marked supplemental information;
- o formatting the marked supplemental information according to predetermined criteria to generate a content list

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- o displaying the content list associated with the audio-visual information;
- o receiving the choice indication responsive to the content list; and
- o simultaneously presenting the audio-visual information synchronized together with at least part of the supplemental information, responsive to the choice.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the audio-visual information and tag are received in the MPEG format.